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Howard Langfitt Farm Families of the Week
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Howard Langfitt Farm Families of the Week

1950

Compere, R. L. family television script

Howard Langfitt

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W L B T

CONTINUITY

[Compere, R.L.]

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO	AUDIO
CAMERA ON LANGFITT	WELL, IT'S FRIDAY, AND FRIDAY MEANS OUR OPPORTUNITY TO MEET ANOTHER OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY CONTRIBUTING MUCH TO THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH THEY LIVE AND TO AGRICULTURE IN GENERAL. SHORTLY BEFORE I WENT ON MY VACATION I CALLED MR. BARKER, RANKIN COUNTY AGENT AND ASKED HIM TO RECOMMEND A RANKIN COUNTY FARM FAMILY TO BE OUR OUTSTANDING "RFD TELEVISION" FARM FAMILY OF THE WEEK. MR. BARKER IMMEDIATELY SAID THAT SUCH A FAMILY WAS THE FAMILY OF MR. AND MRS. R.L. COMPERE OF FLORENCE, MISSISSIPPI. THEY CALL THEIR FARM AND HAPPY ACRES, AND YOU HAVE ONLY TO GET TO KNOW THEM TO REALIZE THAT INDEED THE COMPERE FAMILY HAS MADE THEIR FARM TRULY "HAPPY ACRES." R.L. COMPERE IS A GRADUATE OF MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE. HE WENT OUT OF SCHOOL TO TEACH. MRS. COMPERE IS A GRADUATE IN MUSIC FROM WOMEN'S COLLEGE IN HATTIESBURG AND RECEIVED HER B.A. DEGREE FROM BLUE MOUNTAIN COLLEGE IN TIPPAN COUNTY. MR. AND MRS. R.L. COMPERE MET WHILE TEACHING SCHOOL IN GREENE COUNTY. MR. AND MRS. R.L. COMPERE CAME TO THIS LAND JUST EAST OF FLORENCE IN 1932...A YEAR WHEN THE STATE HAD ONLY
SLIDE FARM-1 NAME PLATE	
SLIDE FARM -21	

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

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BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

ENOUGH MONEY TO OPERATE THE SCHOOL IN WHICH MR. AND MRS. COMPERE TAUGHT FOR ONLY 7 MONTHS...SO WHEN SCHOOL WAS OUT EARLY IN THE SPRING OF 1932 THE COMPERE'S CAME TO THIS LAND AND BUILT THIS HOUSE....BUILT IT THEMSELVES. THEY HIRED \$13 WORTH OF WORK... THE REST OF IT THEY BUILT THEMSELVES. MR. COMPERE'S FATHER HAD GIVEN HIM THE 42 ACRES UPON WHICH HE BUILT THE HOUSE. MR. AND MRS. COMPERE WENT BACK TO TEACH THE FOLLOWING SCHOOL TERM, AFTER WHICH THEY QUIT....THE STATE DIDN'T HAVE THE MONEY TO BACK THEIR PAY VOUCHERS...THEY JUST COULDN'T MAKE A LIVING TEACHING SCHOOL, SO MR. AND MRS. R.L. COMPERE TURNED TO THE SOIL IN THESE DEPRESSION YEARS TO MAKE A LIVING AND A LIFE FOR THEMSELVES. THEY HAVE MADE A GOOD LIVING AND A GOOD LIFE ON THIS LAND. THEY REPLACED THE OLD HOUSE WITH THIS MODERN RANCH TYPE HOME IN 1952....SOLD ENOUGH TIMBER OFF THE FARM TO ALMOST PAY FOR THE HOUSE. DID MOST OF THE BUILDING THEMSELVES. IN FACT THE COMPERE HAVE BUILT EVERY BUILDING ON THE FARM. TODAY IN ADDITION TO THE ORIGINAL 42 ACRES, MR. AND MRS. R.L. COMPERE OWN 370 ACRES OF LAND

SLIDE FARM-2
MODERN HOUSE

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-3
BARN

SLIDE FARM-4
INSIDE BARN

SLIDE FARM-6
DAIRY HERD

SLIDE FARM-8
BULL

SLIDE FARM-7

IN 1935 THEY TOOK UP FEDERAL LAND BANK PAYMENTS ON 150 ACRES. IN 1942 THEY BOUGHT ANOTHER 80 ACRES ADJOINING....IN 1952 THEY BOUGHT 112 ACRES WHERE THE NEW HOUSE SITS. DAIRYING IS THE CHIEF FARM ENTERPRISE OF THE R.L.COMPERE FAMILY. IN THIS DAIRY BARN BUILT BY THE COMPERE'S IS A MODERN GRADE A DAIRY WITH ALL THE MOST SANITARY EQUIPMENT. IN THESE STANTIONS 34 FINE JERSEY COWS ARE MILKED EVERY NIGHT AND EVERY MORNING. THE TOTAL MILKING HERD OF THE COMPERE'S IS COMPOSED OF 45 HEAD. OVER HALF THE HERD IS OF REGISTERED STOCKMAND IT'S A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT INDEED AS THEY GATHER IN BARNYARD EACH EVENING WAITING THEIR TURN TO BE TURNED INTO THE BARN WHERE MODERN MILKING MACHINES MAKE THE MILKING CHORE AN EASIER TASK. OF COURSE, HALF THE SUCCESS OF ANY TOP QUALITY HERD IS A GOOD HERD BULL, AND THE COMPERE'S HAVE A REALLY FINE REGISTERED JERSEY BULL TO SIRE THEIR GALVES, MR. COMPERE SAYS HE GREW INTO HIS DAIRY HERD A LITTLE AT A TIME BY GOOD BREEDING AND GOOD MANAGEMENT. HEIFER GALVES LIKE THESE WILL GROW TO TAKE THEIR PLACE IN THE MILKING HERD. 16 HEIFER GALVES FEED AT THIS BUNK NIGHT AND MORNING, UNDER THE WATCHFUL EYE OF

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-8
ANGUS BULL

SLIDE FARM-9
CATTLE

SLIDE FARM-10
POND

_____. BESIDES THE FINE JERSEY DAIRY HERD OWNED BY THE COMPERE'S, THEY ALSO RAISE COMMERCIAL BEEF STOCK ON THEIR 250 ACRES OF BERMUDA AND SERECIA PASTURE. LIKE SO MANY GOOD FARMERS, MR. COMPERE MAINTAINS A REGISTERED ANGUS BULL WHICH HE BREEDS TO GRADE STOCK TO PRODUCE BEEF QUALITY COMMERCIAL CATTLE LIKE THE ONE IN THE FOREGROUND AND THE MANY MORE IN THE DISTANCE. THE BEEF HERD IS A SMALL ONE AT THE PRESENT TIME COMPRISING ONLY 25 HEIFERS AND COWS, BUT MR. AND MRS. COMPERE ARE BUILDING IT TOWARD THE DAY WHEN IT WILL AGAIN BE PROFITABLE TO TURN COMPLETELY TO BEEF, AND WHEN THAT DAY COMES THEY HOPE TO GIVE UP THE BACK BREAKING WORK OF DAIRYING AND PRODUCE QUALITY BEEF. OF COURSE, ONE OF THE NECESSITIES OF RAISING LIVESTOCK IS A PLENTIFUL WATER SUPPLY. THIS TEN ACRE FARM POND HELPS TO SUPPLY THAT NEED, AND IN ADDITION FURNISHES SPORT AND RELAXATION FOR MR. AND MRS. R.L. COMPERE AND THEIR SEVEN CHILDREN. THE POND IS WELL STOCKED WITH BASS AND BREAM. VERY LITTLE GRAIN IS RAISED

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-11
CORN

ON THE R.L. COMPERE FARM. ONLY FOUR ACRES OF CORN....LIKE SO MUCH THIS YEAR, RETARDED BY DROUGHT, BUT STILL PRODUCING ENOUGH TO SUPPLEMENT THE WINTER GRAZING PROGRAM.

SLIDE FARM-12
COTTON

COTTON HAS NEVER PLAYED A VERY IMPORTANT PART IN THE R.L. COMPERE FARM PLAN. THE MOST THAT HAS EVER BEEN RAISED IN ANY ONE YEAR WAS 24 ACRES, BACK IN THE YEARS BEFORE 1942 WHEN TWO TENNANT FAMILIES WORKED THE COMPERE LAND. THIS YEAR'S COTTON CROP ON THE FARM IS TEN ACRES. PASTURE AND HAY CROPS ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT PARTS OF THE CROP PROGRAM. AS I SAID A FEW MOMENTS AGO SEREGIA AND BERMUDA GRASS ARE PREDOMINATE ON THE LAND. BESIDES 250 ACRES OF PASTURE, 50 ACRES OF BERMUDA GRASS HAY ARE HARVESTED EACH YEAR. MR. COMPERE SAID HE HAD GROWN CRIMSON CLOVER, AND THAT HE WAS GOING TO SOW OATS AND WILD WINTER PEAS THIS FALL. THERE IS ANOTHER CROP HARVESTED ON THE COMPERE LAND. THAT CROP IS TIMBER. THERE ARE 100 ACRES OF TIMBER WHICH IS CAREFULLY MANAGED AND HARVESTED ABOUT EVERY THREE YEARS. R.L. COMPERE ALSO TREATS HIS OWN FENCE POSTS WHICH HE CUTS FROM HIS OWN TIMBER....POSTS WHICH SERVE TO KEEP PASTURE FENCES SEPERATING DAIRY AND BEEF

SLIDE FARM-13
HAN IN FIELDSLIDE FARM-14
TIMBERSLIDE FARM-15

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-16
OPEN LAND

SLIDE FARM-17
UNDERBRUSH

SLIDE FARM-18
MOWER

SLIDE FARM-19
TRACTOR

HERDS ONE FROM ANOTHER. MR. COMPERE IS A FARMER WHO BELIEVES IN GOOD MANAGEMENT AND CAREFUL PLANNING TO MAKE HIS LAND PRODUCE MAXIMUM RETURNS. EVERY YEAR THREE TO FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS IS SPENT IN CLEARING NEW LAND FOR MORE PASTURE AND HAY CROPS. THIS LAND WE SEE HERE WAS ANYTHING BUT CLEAR A FEW YEARS AGO. IN FACT, IT WASN'T LONG AGO IT LOOKED JUST LIKE THIS AND WASN'T PRODUCING A SINGLE CENT IN RETURN. BUT A FARSIGHTED FARMER AND A BULLDOZER CAN WORK WONDERS WITH SUPPOSEDLY WORTHLESS LAND. IT DOESN'T TAKE MUCH EXPENSIVE EQUIPMENT TO CARE FOR LAND IN PASTURE AND HAY CROPS. THIS PASTURE CLIPPER AND A MOWER ARE ABOUT ALL THAT IS NEEDED ALONG WITH THE POWER TO MOVE THEM. PASTURE CLIPPING IS CARRIED OUT RELIGIOUSLY TO CONTROL WEEDS, AND THOSE GIRLS OPERATE MACHINERY JUST AS WELL AS MR. COMPERE AND THE BOYS. THE POWER IS FURNISHED BY THIS TRACTOR AND ONE OTHER SOMEWHAT HEAVIER. EVEN THE YOUNGEST BOY OPERATES THE TRACTOR AND HELPS WITH THE FARM WORK. MRS. COMPERE AND THE GIRLS ALSO

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO	AUDIO
<p>SLIDE <u>FARM-20</u> <u>CHICKENS</u></p>	<p>RAISE A FEW CHICKENS TO SUPPLY THE FAMILY LARDER AND TO FURNISH NEEDED EGGS. MR. AND MRS. COMPERE SET OUT 40 PECAN TREES BEFORE THEY EVER MOVED TO THE LAND, TODAY THEY HAVE ABOUT 30 BEARING TREES. IN ADDITION, A HALF ACRE GARDEN IS SET OUT EACH YEAR, FROM WHICH MRS. COMPERE GAINS ABOUT 300 QUARTS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES, SOME OF WHICH YOU CAN SEE DINING THE REAR PANTRY WALL. THE DEEP FREEZE SEEN IN THE FOREGROUND, IS WELL STOCKED WITH A BEEF AND ABOUT 300 POUNDS OF VEGETABLES ALONG WITH OTHER NEEDED SUPPLIES RAISED ON THE FARM. MOST OF THE R.L. COMPERE FAMILY LIFE CENTERS AROUND THEIR BEAUTIFUL HOME, MODERN IN EVERY WAY. MRS. COMPERE IS AN ACCOMPLISHED PIANIST, HAVING TAUGHT MUSIC FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS. THE PIANO IS THE CENTER OF MUCH OF THE FAMILY ACTIVITY. MRS. COMPERE IS CHURCH PIANIST AT THE BRIAR HILL BAPTIST CHURCH, DAUGHTER MONTEEL, WHO ENTERS MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE THIS WEEK, IS SUNDAY SCHOOL PIANIST, AND ALMA, WHO IS STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL IS THE B.T.U. PIANIST. IN ADDITION MONTEEL PLAYS THE VIOLIN AND ALMA</p>
<p>SLIDE <u>FARM-23</u> <u>PANTRY & FRUIT</u></p>	<p>THEA ACCORDIAN.</p>
<p>SLIDE <u>FARM 22</u> <u>LIVING ROOM</u></p>	<p></p>

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-24
PATIO

~~XXXXX~~

SLIDE FARM-25
CHURCH

CAMERA ON LANGFITT

THE COMPERE'S LOVE TO ENTERTAIN THEIR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS. THIS SUMMER THEY ENTERTAINED THREE BOYS FROM THE BAPTIST ORPHANAGE FOR 2½ WEEKS IN ORDER THAT THE BOYS MIGHT HAVE A VACATION LIKE OTHER BOYS AND GIRLS. THIS BEAUTIFUL PATIO AT THE REAR OF THE HOUSE IS A FAVORITE RELAXING PLACE FOR MR. AND MRS. COMPERE. A PLACE WHERE MR. COMPERE CAN RELAX FROM HIS FARM WORK, FROM HIS DUTIES AS A MEMBER OF THE RANKIN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD, FROM HIS DUTIES AS A DIRECTOR IN THE HINDS-RANKIN ARTIFICIAL BREEDERS ASSOCIATION, FROM HIS DUTIES AS A DIRECTOR OF THE MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF THE AMERICAN DAIRY ASSOCIATION. A PLACE WHERE HE CAN PREPARE HIS LESSON FOR THE INTERMEDIATE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS HE TEACHES AT THE BRIAR HILL BAPTIST CHURCH, A SHORT WAY UP THE ROAD. MRS. COMPERE IS ALSO ACTIVE IN HER COMMUNITY AND HER CHURCH. AMONG OTHER THINGS SHE IS W.M.U. PRESIDENT, AND INTERMEDIATE TEACHER OF B.T.U. I COULD GO ON AND ON TELLING ABOUT THIS WONDERFUL FAMILY, BUT THERE IS ONLY SO MUCH PICTURES WILL TELL,

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO	AUDIO
	<p>IN THE FEW MINUTES REMAINING I WANT YOU TO MEET THIS WONDERFUL FAMILY AND FIND OUT A LITTLE ABOUT OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY NOT WITH US TODAY. THEIR A WONDERFUL FAMILY. I AM PROUD TO CALL THEM THE "RFD TELEVISIT" FARM FAMILY OF THE WEEK. AND HERE THEY ARE.....</p>